

In The Claims

Please add New Claims 5-8 as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): In a microscope stand of a type having an electrically powered element and a power inlet connected to said element, the improvement comprising:

an auxiliary power outlet connected to said power inlet for receiving a power cord of an electrically powered auxiliary device associated with said microscope stand.

Claim 2 (Original): The improvement according to claim 1, wherein said power inlet of said microscope stand and said auxiliary power outlet are formed according to a common standard chosen from a plurality standards in use throughout the world.

Claim 3 (Original): The improvement according to claim 1, further comprising a cover installed to prevent access to said auxiliary power outlet, wherein said cover is adapted to be removable by a service technician but not by an end user.

Claim 4 (Original): The improvement according to claim 1, wherein said electrically powered element is an illumination source.

Claim 5 (New): A microscope stand of a type having an electrically powered element and a power inlet connected to said element, said microscope stand comprising:

an auxiliary power outlet connected to said power inlet for receiving a power cord of an electrically powered auxiliary device, said power inlet, said power cord and said power outlet

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adapted for accepting a standard International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) electrical connector.

Claim 6 (New): The microscope stand of Claim 5 wherein said power inlet and said power outlet are operatively arranged on an outer surface of said microscope stand.

Claim 7 (New): In a microscope stand of a type having an electrically powered element and a power inlet connected to said element, said microscope stand comprising:

an auxiliary power outlet connected to said power inlet for receiving a power cord of an electrically powered auxiliary device, said power inlet and said power outlet operatively arranged on an outer surface of said microscope stand.

Claim 8 (New): The microscope stand of Claim 7 wherein said power inlet, said power cord and said power outlet are adapted for accepting a standard International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) electrical connector.